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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/927,110	08/10/2001	Bing Zhu	MBM1240	3840

7590 01/21/2003

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EXAMINER

SPECTOR, LORRAINE

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
1647	8

DATE MAILED: 01/21/2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

<b>Office Action Summary</b>	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	Examiner	Group Art Unit	

—The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet beneath the correspondence address—

**Period for Response**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR RESPONSE IS SET TO EXPIRE One MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a response be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for response specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a response within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for response is specified above, such period shall, by default, expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication .
- Failure to respond within the set or extended period for response will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).

**Status**

- Responsive to communication(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_.
- This action is **FINAL**.
- Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, **prosecution as to the merits is closed** in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 1 1; 453 O.G. 213.

**Disposition of Claims**

Claim(s) 1-47 is/are pending in the application.

Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

- Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are rejected.
- Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.

Claim(s) 1-47 are subject to restriction or election requirement.

**Application Papers**

- See the attached Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review, PTO-948.
- The proposed drawing correction, filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is  approved  disapproved.
- The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to by the Examiner.
- The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

**Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119 (a)-(d)**

- Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d).
- All  Some\*  None of the CERTIFIED copies of the priority documents have been received.
- received in Application No. (Series Code/Serial Number) \_\_\_\_\_.
- received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\*Certified copies not received: \_\_\_\_\_.

**Attachment(s)**

- Information Disclosure Statement(s), PTO-1449, Paper No(s). \_\_\_\_\_  Interview Summary, PTO-413
- Notice of References Cited, PTO-892  Notice of Informal Patent Application, PTO-152
- Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review, PTO-948  Other \_\_\_\_\_

**Office Action Summary**

**Part III: Detailed Office Action**

**Restriction Requirement:**

Restriction to one of the following inventions is required under 35 U.S.C. 121:

- I. Claims 1-16, 20-22, 42-44, drawn to a method of reducing inflammation in an immune-privileged site using protein, classified in class 514, subclass 2.
- II. Claims 17-19, 39-41, drawn to a method of creating an immune-privileged site using protein, classified in class 514, subclass 2.
- III. Claims 23-38, drawn to a method of reducing inflammation in an immune-privileged site using nucleic acids, classified in class 514, subclass 44.
- IV. Claims 45-47, drawn to cellular therapy using transformed cells, classified in class 424, subclass 93.21.

The inventions are distinct, each from the other because:

Although drawn to different methods of using a common product, Inventions I and II are nonetheless separate and distinct because the product itself does not constitute an advance over the prior art, and the search involved for the two inventions centers on the intended use, and thus requires divergent and largely non-overlapping search of the prior art, which would present an undue burden to the examiner. Accordingly, restriction is proper.

Inventions I and II are separate and distinct from Inventions III and IV, and Inventions III and IV are separate and distinct from each other, as each is drawn to a method of using a patentably distinct product, each product requiring separate search and consideration of the prior art, which search would be burdensome to the examiner. Accordingly, restriction is proper.

**Species election requirement:**

In the event that applicants elect for prosecution either Invention I or Invention III, above, a further election of species is required:

This application contains claims directed to the following patentably distinct species of immune-privileged site or the claimed invention: CNS, eye, placenta, testis, and ovaries.

Applicant is required under 35 U.S.C. 121 to elect a single disclosed species for prosecution on the merits to which the claims shall be restricted if no generic claim is finally held to be allowable.

IN ADDITION to the above, if election is made of the species CNS, a further election of a 5 single species selected from the group consisting of MS, EAE, and the 25 species listed in claim 10 is required.

Each species is drawn to a distinct tissue or condition, each tissue and condition requiring a separate search of the art, the examination of all species constituting and undue search burden on the Examiner.

10 Currently, claims 1-5, 15, 16, 20-22, and 42-44 are generic to Invention I, and claims 23-27, 37 and 38 are generic to Invention III.

15 Applicant is advised that a reply to this requirement must include an identification of the species that is elected consonant with this requirement, and a listing of all claims readable thereon, including any claims subsequently added. An argument that a claim is allowable or that all claims are generic is considered nonresponsive unless accompanied by an election.

Upon the allowance of a generic claim, applicant will be entitled to consideration of claims to additional species which are written in dependent form or otherwise include all the limitations of an allowed generic claim as provided by 37 CFR 1.141. If claims are added after the election, applicant must indicate which are readable upon the elected species. MPEP § 809.02(a).

20 Should applicant traverse on the ground that the species are not patentably distinct, applicant should submit evidence or identify such evidence now of record showing the species to be obvious variants or clearly admit on the record that this is the case. In either instance, if the examiner finds one of the inventions unpatentable over the prior art, the evidence or admission may be used in a rejection under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) of the other invention.

**Advisory Information:**

Applicant is reminded that upon the cancellation of claims to a non-elected invention, the inventorship must be amended in compliance with 37 CFR 1.48(b) if one or more of the currently named inventors is no longer an inventor of at least one claim remaining in the application. Any 5 amendment of inventorship must be accompanied by a request under 37 CFR 1.48(b) and by the fee required under 37 CFR 1.17(I).

10 Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the Examiner should be directed to Lorraine M. Spector, whose telephone number is (703) 308-1793. Dr. Spector can normally be reached Monday through Friday, 9:00 A.M. to 5:30 P.M.

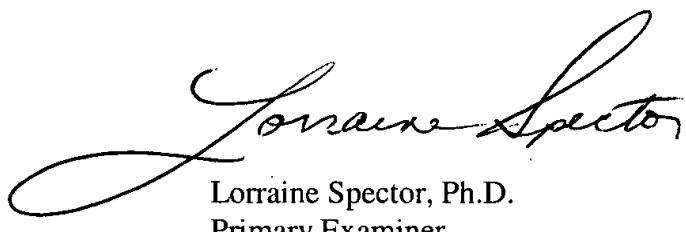
If attempts to reach the Examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the Examiner's supervisor, Dr. Gary L. Kunz, at (703)308-4623.

15 Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the Group receptionist at telephone number (703) 308-0196.

20 Certain papers related to this application may be submitted to Group 1800 by facsimile transmission. Papers should be faxed to Technology Center 1600 via the PTO Fax Center located in Crystal Mall 1 (CM1). The faxing of such papers must conform with the notices published in the Official Gazette, 1156 OG 61 (November 16, 1993) and 1157 OG 94 (December 28, 1993) (see 37 C.F.R. § 1.6(d)). NOTE: If Applicant *does* submit a paper by fax, the original signed copy should be retained by applicant or applicant's representative. NO DUPLICATE COPIES SHOULD BE SUBMITTED so as to avoid the processing of duplicate papers in the Office.

25 Official papers filed by fax should be directed to (703) 872-9306 (before final rejection) or (703)872-9307 (after final). Faxed draft or informal communications with the examiner should be directed to (703) 746-5228.

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Lorraine Spector

Lorraine Spector, Ph.D.  
Primary Examiner

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1/21/03